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MARGINAL COLUMN By EMMY LAQUER

OVER the last few days a number of articles have been published by Communist or pro-Communist newspapers in different parts of the world calling for a "Geneva Conference" on the Arab-Israeli conflict. These articles differ in approach on certain points. In Britain and France it is argued that concessions would have to be made by both sides, whereas the same article in its Egyptian version (Mahmud Amin el Alem in "Rose al Yusef") regards concessions as a matter concerning Israel only. But a textual comparison tends to show that unless telepathy has been at work, the "Geneva Conference" article in its different forms must have emerged from one and the same source. Mr. Paine Dutt, the "grey eminence" of British Communism, writing in the "Daily Worker," is surprisingly well disposed towards Israel. He does not mention the view presented by Messrs. Mikulski and Sneh in the West European Communist press in recent months about the "fascination" of Israel and the aggressive designs of the Ben-Gurion government. On the contrary, Mr. Ben-Gurion is referred to as a "responsible leader" for having defeated the demand for a preventive war.

Mr. YOUSSEF Hilmi writing in the French "L'Observateur" (from his exile in Prague, if I am not mistaken) presents himself as the former secretary of the Egyptian Nationalist party. (He was also a leading supporter of Communism in Egypt until 1950 which for some reason or other he does not mention.) He calls for a peace conference outside the U.N. ("too many mutual recriminations and bad memories"), stresses the necessity of a lasting peace and demands that the hostilities in both sides be ended. The first part of his article is admirable, but then he goes on trying to show that a "Geneva Conference" will not attack Israel anyway. The best of the three reasons he gives is, that Nasser has prepared so much for a possible attack that he cannot possibly make war at the same time (which is the same argument Hitler used in 1938).

HILMI emphasizes that he speaks on a sharp critic of the Nasser regime who has been arrested and expelled from the junta — which is quite correct. But then "Rose al Yusef" in Cairo carried an article largely to the contrary, the very same week, which means that Mr. Arkadi Sobolev's hints about the Soviet "interesting suggestions" in different places with provision for adjustments to local conditions. Mr. Paine Dutt in London declares that the Communist party in the Communist party is not a policy of alignment with Jews against Arabs or with Arabs against Jews ("Daily Worker," April 26). In Egypt and Syria a different version of the gospel is preferred. All this should not prevent us from being interested in the trial balloons which have been let loose in London, Paris, Cairo and other places.

UNDERLYING the recent modification in the Soviet line on the Middle East are more than one or two factors. In a more discreet manner than hitherto. In contrast to Sir Anthony Eden's Guildhall speech, Communist spokesmen have preferred to refer to name preconditions for negotiations on peace between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

ALL this places the Arab governments in a highly awkward position indeed. They have for so many years declared that they will never negotiate with Israel, they have tried to maintain a high pitch of intensity in their propaganda for the destruction of Israel, they are so dependent now on extremist public opinion created by themselves, that it will be difficult if not impossible for them to retreat. Israel has no interest at all that they should be spared this dilemma. Whatever the ulterior motives and intentions of the authors of the new project for a "Middle Eastern Geneva," it would be wrong to dismiss it out of hand. There are ever-present in politics; however justified the fear of moves it should not lead to political immobilization.

London, May 6.

LEBANON HOLDS FOUR AS ISRAEL SPIES

Four persons, including one woman, were arrested in Lebanon on Sunday night on charges of spying for Israel. "Al-Ahram," the Cairo daily, reported yesterday.

Knesset Resumes To Debate Tax Changes

Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

The Knesset's summer term opened yesterday with a debate on a number of income tax amendments which the Minister of Finance described as mainly technical in nature, but which Opposition speakers attacked as introducing undesirable substantive changes. The debate will be resumed today.

Under the bill, self-employed persons will pay their advance income tax in 10 monthly instalments, from May to February, instead of the present quarterly payments.

Self-employed persons will also be required to submit their income tax returns by May 31 each year instead of August 31 as at present. But taxpayers whose returns are based on double-entry book-keeping and are accompanied by a balance sheet and a profit and loss statement will be given until July 31.

Another amendment withdraws the exemption from income tax now enjoyed by dividends paid from companies which have cooperative societies with their own members. Provision and pension funds will now be exempt from income tax only on profits from investments, but not from profits derived from business transactions.

The bill removes the Minister of Finance of the present requirements of publishing changes to the Taxpayers Register ("Sefer Hanatanim") which has become necessary as a result of appeals or re-assessments.

The bill permits civil servants to serve on income tax public advisory committees, provided that at least two of the three members are not civil members. ("Too many mutual recriminations and bad memories"), stresses the necessity of a lasting peace and demands that the hostilities in both sides be ended. The first part of his article is admirable, but then he goes on trying to show that a "Geneva Conference" will not attack Israel anyway. The best of the three reasons he gives is, that Nasser has prepared so much for a possible attack that he cannot possibly make war at the same time (which is the same argument Hitler used in 1938).

Herut Seeks Vote Of Non-Confidence

The Knesset today will hear a Herut motion of non-confidence in the Government for its failure to prevent the Haifa industrial exhibition from remaining open on the Sabbath.

Motions for the agenda on the same subject have been submitted by Mapai, Hamisrah-Misrah and Agudat Yisrael-Poalei Agudat Yisrael. They, too, will be heard today.

It is believed that the Herut motion is aimed at so much at the Government as against the religious parties, who are now in an awkward position. Unless they wish to support the non-confidence motion, they will be forced to vote against it, which in essence expresses their views.

Debate Opens On Deputy Ministers

A three-hour debate began in the Knesset last night on an amendment to the Law of Transition which would permit the appointment of two Deputy Ministers, instead of one, in each Ministry. The debate will be continued this morning.

The immediate purpose of the amendment is to enable the appointment of a second Deputy Minister of Education.

Opposition speakers, relying heavily on satire, said that passage of the amendment would open the door to the appointment of an unlimited number of Deputy Ministers. They charged that the bill was intended only to serve Coalition needs.

Dr. Y. Ezer (Herut) thought that the bill evinced a frivolous approach towards the legislative structure by changing a basic law where no change was needed.

While admitting that the law must be adapted to current needs, Mr. I. Harari (Progressive) said that at a time when heavily burdened Ministries go along without a Deputy Minister, it was strange that the Minister of Education needed two.

Mr. P. Lavon (Mapai) said that the bill in no way affected basic constitutional law; it was a technical matter. A certain amount of flexibility was needed in a Coalition Government, he asserted.

Improvement In Loan Lottery

The Knesset last night passed the Finance Committee an amendment to the Special Popular Loan Law, the purpose of which is to correct defects in the lottery system.

It will be recalled that last year, because the winning number appeared in consecutive order, the winners were concentrated in a limited number of places of employment and some persons won more than one prize.

The lottery is held annually in June.

The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee yesterday heard a comprehensive report by the Foreign Minister, Mr. Moshe Sharett, on the recent talks with Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld.

France Looks To Tito To Obtain Soviet 'Active Coexistence'

PARIS, Tuesday (Reuters). — Government leaders today asked their guest of honour, Marshal Tito, to act as "honest broker" between them and the Soviet Government in an effort to set the Kremlin to help put an end to hostilities in North Africa, usually well-informed sources indicated today.

Premier Guy Mollet and Foreign Minister Christian Fiquet received Marshal Tito this afternoon for the first important diplomatic talks since the Yugoslav President arrived here yesterday on a one-week state visit.

Intuitively, the public seems to be looking to the tough little man from the Serbian hills as the man who can perhaps open the road to an agreement of coexistence with Russia.

According to usually well-informed sources, M. Pincus who two months ago declared that he was in "profound disagreement" with parts of Western policy towards Russia, urged Marshal Tito to support his plan for aiding underdeveloped countries through the U.N.

The idea was coolly received by the other Foreign Ministers at last week's NATO Council meeting here, but the French believe Marshal Tito may be warmer towards the idea because he favours what he calls "active coexistence."

'Storm Signals' In Singapore

LONDON, Tuesday (UP). — The all-party Singapore "Merdeka" delegation disclosed today that there had been "no progress" in the talks with Colonial Secretary Alan Lennox-Boyd on the future status of the Crown Colony.

After studying the British proposals presented to the delegation on defence and external affairs, the colony's Chief Minister, Mr. David Marshall, commented that "storm signals are up."

French Artillery Opens Against Algerian Rebels

ALGERIA, Tuesday (Reuters). — French troops tonight used artillery and aircraft cannon to pound some 600 Algerian rebels encamped in a four-cornered trap in the mountainous Tlemcen area near the Moroccan border.

A total of 100 guerrillas have so far been killed by land forces and aircraft while another 100 have been captured. The encircled rebels are mainly members of local and wild tribes, some of whom came from the Moroccan Rif Mountains across the border, authorities said.

Troops massed in the Tlemcen area tonight in what local inhabitants said were the fiercest battles since World War II.

Steel helmeted police today threw tear gas bombs at more than 3,000 demonstrators in Algiers who gathered in the streets after a V.E. Day ceremony to urge French reprisals against the terrorist attacks. They carried along banners demanding the resignation of former Premier Pierre Mendes-France, who favours liberal policies in North Africa.

Arabs Demonstrate Against France

North Africa Day was observed by demonstrations throughout Jordan and the Levant yesterday, the Arab News Agency reports.

In Amman, King Hussein instructed Jordan Premier Samir Rifai to call for an early meeting of the Arab League Council to discuss the Franco-Arab tension in Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco. The King requested the permission for the holding of a mass rally in the Old City to voice sympathy with the North African nationalists.

Lebanese Premier Abdullah Yafi told a large crowd of demonstrators in Beirut that the Lebanon stood by the Algerian people and was in the first rank of countries working in support of Algerian independence, according to Reuters.

Allen Warns of M.E. War Risk

WASHINGTON, Tuesday (UP). — Mr. George Allen, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, warned the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today that Communist arms shipments to Egypt have increased the "frightening prospects of a devastating arms race or even a resurgence of hostilities."

His prepared statement was made to a closed session of the committee and later released.

He said that American policy is aimed at the achievement of a peaceful and equitable settlement of Arab-Israeli differences and the "permanent security" of the Middle East.

Mr. Allen discussed the Middle East situation in testimony supporting the "Admission of the U.S. Disarmament" bill, which would ask the U.N. Secretary-General to use his influence with France to bring the dispute between Algeria and Tunisia to a peaceful solution.

Flag-Pole Just Misses Queen Elizabeth

MAIDENCOMBE, England, Tuesday (UP). — A heavy flagpole crashed across a road here today a few seconds after the Queen, who was driving in an open automobile, it hit the car behind the Queen, damaging the hood and roof.

The 20-foot flagpole, anchored in a sand-filled oil drum, fell when the crowd pressed forward to see the Queen and Duke.

Stand-By in Cyprus As Two to Hang

NICOSIA, Tuesday (Reuters). — British troops ringed Cyprus towns tonight with guns at the ready as the Governor, Sir John Harding, confirmed death sentences on two young terrorists, Andreas Demetriou 22, the first to hang since the emergency started.

Shots wanted to close and workers left their jobs when the Government radio gave the news that the two were to die.

Loudspeakers vans toured the capital announcing that vehicles would be banned from the streets from 5 p.m. till further notice. British families were warned to stock up with foodstuffs in case of strikes.

Violent riots followed the dismissal of Karalis' appeal last November. He then appealed to the Governor for mercy and there have been many pleas for his life here and abroad.

Karalis shot a policeman in the back in Nicosia. Phillips, sent a letter of protest to the British Consul in Nicosia, a Greek Cypriot sentenced to death for killing a policeman. The protests were made to Sir Charles Peake and Mr. Cavendish Cannon, the British and U.S. Ambassadors.

Greece Protests To Britain, U.S.

ATHENS, Tuesday (Reuters). — The Greek Government today protested to Britain and the U.S. against Cyprus Governor Sir John Harding's refusal to revoke Michael Karalis, a Greek Cypriot sentenced to death for killing a policeman. The protests were made to Sir Charles Peake and Mr. Cavendish Cannon, the British and U.S. Ambassadors.

Eden Declines To Invite Chou

LONDON, Tuesday. — Sir Anthony Eden today brusquely rejected a Socialist demand that he invite China's Premier, Mr. Chou En-lai, to Britain for talks on the lines of those held with the Russian leaders. "But," Mr. Eden said, "I am not convinced by the evidence produced that the perpetration of this incident either came from or returned to Jordan. The investigation did not show any definite tracks in over two kilometers, even with the use of a dog over ground where tracks could have been found."

This statement contrasted sharply with the findings of the Observer who reiterated at the meeting that the way taken by the Jordanian attackers as followed during the investigation had led up to the Demarcation Line.

The Observer's report of the investigation said that the incoming and outgoing tracks were followed up to a point where they could be seen no longer. But from that point a police dog picked up the track of the truck and carried on up to the Demarcation Line.

At some places, flattened grass could be seen as if someone had walked through it recently.

The U.N. Observer explained he reported that the reason for the employment of a dog for further tracking was the very hard and stony nature of the ground where it was not possible to see any signs of tracks.

After these facts were placed before the Commission and the Israel draft resolution was presented, Commander Terri adjourned the meeting. Following a lengthy recess, the Chairman re-convened the session in the afternoon to take a vote.

Following the vote, the Senior Israel Delegate, Ray-Be-Be, declared that the Chairman's abstention was deplored by the Israel delegation. On identical cases in the past he said the M.A.C. had failed to reach decisions. By obscuring the issue, the M.A.C. had failed in its duty and certainly had not aided the U.N. Secretary-General's efforts to improve the situation.

An Israel official, asked to comment on the decision of the M.A.C., said, "One can only feel sorry for Commander Terri who must have felt uncomfortable himself when he was made to vote as he did. In General Burns' absence at Gaza, in flat contradiction to the facts that were before the M.A.C."

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Sharett Tells UN Chief Of Concern At New Violence

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Foreign Minister yesterday expressed Israel's grave concern to the U.N. Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, over the renewed outbreak of violence along the Egyptian and Jordan borders.

Israel Voted Down On Yaavetz Blast

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Evidence produced by a U.N. Observer that tracks going to and from the scene of the demolition of a two-story house at Kfar Yaavetz on May 5 led to the Jordan border was insufficient to convince the U.N. Chairman of the Israeli-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission yesterday and he refrained from condemning Jordan for the incident.

After abstaining on an Israeli resolution that the investigation should be followed up to a point where they could be seen no longer. But from that point a police dog picked up the track of the truck and carried on up to the Demarcation Line.

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U.S. To Help Allies Sell Arms to Israel

WASHINGTON, Tuesday (UP). — Secretary of State Dulles has notified America's allies that this country will facilitate the sale of arms shipments to Israel where U.S. approval or action is required.

But informed sources said he also told the North Atlantic Treaty Council last week that the U.S. is sticking to its own weapons embargo for the moment.

It is understood that Mr. Dulles told his NATO allies that the U.S. is sticking to its own weapons embargo for the moment.

He explained that the U.S. at present considers it unwise for it to ship arms to Israel, but that other nations have the opportunity to discuss with Mr. Hammarskjöld the most recent border violations by Egypt and Jordan.

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U.S. Technicians Say Israel Must Resume Jordan River Plan

WASHINGTON, Tuesday (UP). — A board of American engineers said yesterday that Israel's farm growth programme will come up against a "serious block" some time during the next four years if work towards diverting Jordan River waters is delayed any longer.

For this reason the board, acting as consultant to the Israel Government, recommended an immediate start on the project.

An Israel official, asked to comment on the decision of the M.A.C., said, "One can only feel sorry for Commander Terri who must have felt uncomfortable himself when he was made to vote as he did. In General Burns' absence at Gaza, in flat contradiction to the facts that were before the M.A.C."

U.S. Charge d'Affaires Said Trouble-Maker

WASHINGTON, Tuesday (UP). — Representative Abraham J. Multer today accused U.S. diplomats in the Middle East of "stirring up the explosive dispute between Israel and the Arab states."

He urged that Congress direct the State Department to silence its representatives who are talking of "preventive war" in the Middle East, instead of peace.

The Congressman asserted that one of the chief offenders was Mr. Ivan B. White, counsel and now Charge d'Affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Israel. He said that Mr. White was always ready to back his statement that Israel might open an aggressive preventive war against the Arab nations by "quoting minority radicals" in Israel who do not represent the responsible leaders.

Mr. Multer made his charges at a meeting of the House Foreign Affairs Committee which is studying President Eisenhower's request for a \$4,900,000 foreign aid programme.

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Curfew Lifted From Tayiba

Jerusalem Post Reporter

RAJIL, Tuesday. — The curfew which was imposed on the village of Tayiba in the Little Triangle on Sunday afternoon was lifted tonight.

The Ministry of the Interior ordered the curfew after tracks leading from a house blown up by infiltrators in Kfar Yaavetz, early Sunday morning, were found to have passed through the Arab village on their way to and from the Jordan border.

No further arrests were made today, and the 40 persons held for breaking the curfew have been released on bail.

NEW GAZA GOVERNOR WAS ARMY JUDGE

Muhammad Fudh Digi, till now President of the Cairo Military Court, has been appointed Egyptian Governor of the Gaza Strip, replacing Abdullah Rifa'at, who has retired. NEABS reported yesterday.

Digi was President of the military court which heard the trial a year ago of 13 young Jewish Egyptians accused of espionage. Two of the accused, Marouk and Azar, were sentenced to death and executed.

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Cairo Trying To Cover Up

The Egyptian propaganda machine is trying to cover up recent Egyptian acts of aggression in contravention of the cease-fire and the Armistice by circulating an entirely fictitious story of an Israeli violation, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Jerusalem yesterday.

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A New Gasoline For Israel
With the introduction of a few weeks ago, of higher octane gasoline in Israel, it has become possible for Mobil Oil Israel Ltd. to give Israeli motorists the benefit of their world renowned "double powered" gasoline. A powerful combination of additives is now contained in the higher octane gasoline resulting in a vast improvement of the fuel performance and ridding the motor of many engine troubles. The new gasoline bringing about improved engine performance and considerable savings will be marketed from now on, what's more, at no additional cost.

